

**Liquefied Natural Gas Task Force  
Meeting Summary for  
Nov. 17, 2006  
Fleming Community Center  
Turners Station, MD**

Minutes for Nov. 1 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Co-Chair Beazley asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Baker: Last scheduled meeting. Additional meetings can be discussed depending on today's progress. Today draft findings and recommendations will be discussed. These are not final. There will be an additional chance for the full Task Force to comment on the Findings and Recommendations. At the end of the meeting all members will have five minutes to comment.

Next steps will be to craft a final version. The co-chairs will work with the members to complete this task. The final report is due on Dec. 31 and we are still on track.

Delegate Sonny Minnick arrived and was introduced.

Discussions will start with the Land Use Committee report.

**Chris Rice spoke for the group and reviewed his handout.**

Findings 1 and 2; Recommendations 1 and 2

Minnick: How far is an acceptable safe distance?

Beazley: 2.5 miles based on a small vessel.

Baker: There are different ways to calculate the exclusion zone. Final calculations aren't available yet from FERC. It is probably unresolved about whether HUD or FERC has primary jurisdiction.

Donnelly: HUD calculates on the volume of hazardous material.

Dawson: The language used may be too editorial (e.g., flagrant, off-the-chart). Just present the facts.

Jackson: HUD is a major factor in this community as they provided funding for many projects.

Baker: We have heard from FERC and the Coast Guard, but not from HUD. HUD has regulations saying they have a role.

Beazley: HUD has several high rises serving the elderly.

Baker: IN final report we must present different calculations as different options. There are also federal jurisdictional issues to resolve. May only be able to list federal statutes that apply.

Morton: AES lawyers said HUD regulations are not applicable and that the HUD calculations are out-dated. You should start with attorney Hare to see prior decisions or determine applicable regulations.

?: Standard is applicable.

Beazley: Someone needs to check on applicability of the HUD standard.

Dawson: In Risk and Safety Committee they presented various calculations as Joel suggested.

Findings 3 and 4; Recommendation 3

Two more people arrived and co-chair Beasley introduced Steve Deem and Frank Eurice and noted that they are both involved in planning for the future of the Peninsula. Fred Thiess also noted that Wells-McComas, company he works for is involved in planning for the area.

Jackson: In response to the committee report that the nearest ignition source was approximately 1362 feet from the facility, Mr. Jackson noted that the fabrication shop at the shipyard has acetylene torches with long hoses and the machine shop has boilers and they would be much closer.

Rice: 1362 feet was determined based on an aerial photo because it was the closest big boiler. The Task Force can make a different determination.

Baker: May not be important to pick a specific source. The area can be mapped and various activities can be indicated.

Jackson: Boilers in the machine shop are going 24/7 and represent a significant ignition source.

Baker: There seems to be agreement to delete an estimate of the distance to the nearest ignition source, but a map could be helpful

Donnelly: There is also a co-generation facility on the site.

#### Finding 5; Recommendation 4

Placement of LNG and ethanol in proximity violates various laws.

Dawson: We may need to get an interpretation of the requirement for no dredged disposal within 5 miles of Hart-Miller Is.

Beazley: The law says no processing or disposal within 5 miles.

Baker: Part of the issue is to clarify the difference between disposal and temporary storage and processing.

Konopacki: Why not use Poplar Island?

Baker: Cannot because the dredged sediment from the Harbor is contaminated.

Francis Taylor (Dredging Citizens Advisory Committee)? The CAC is working with the Harbor Team to find disposal sites. One of the recommendations is to use Sparrows Point. If the ban is perpetual, that will not be in the best interest of the State. If it is time-limited that would be OK.

Minnick: Senator Stone would never agree to move the 5 mile limit.

Taylor: Sparrows point is being forwarded as a recommendation. Nothing will be said about the alignment or the footprint. Citizens want water and esthetic improvements and that the superfund issues be addressed. [Implied] Creating a disposal site would get these results.

Baker: Most of the remaining issues overlap with the Environmental Impacts, so let's address them together.

## **Dawson speaking for Risk and Safety Committee**

### Issue 1

Baker: Haven't yet seen FERC's risk assessment. Could add a footnote as to where the risk analysis assumptions come from.

Dawson: Noted application not yet submitted. The Task Force might desire another opportunity to make additional comments after the application is available. Can note in the preamble that at the time the report was written, the application was not yet available.

Jackson: Agrees that the Sandia study is model and assumptions.

Schafer: AES will need to provide an exclusion zone analysis. It will go to Pipeline Safety for independent review of the analysis and modeling. The PSC has run exclusion zone models for Cove Point and Spring Gardens where LNG is stored.

?: AES project is very different from Cove Point because it is heavily populated, but AES has indicated they are comparable. The Cove Point dock is a mile out; Sparrows Point is right near residences. Also there is no cliff at Sparrows Point to limit a fireball. This problem would be exacerbated if an ethanol facility is also there.

### Issue 2

Heavner: We need to know what specifically is being proposed. A generating plant is being considered, but a sediment recycling plant is specifically part of the proposal.

Roth: In Edgemere roads were repeatedly laid and dug up; agencies didn't coordinate. A plan that looks longer term is needed.

Baker: We have heard these concerns in several different ways.

Dawson: There should be a comment to FERC to review comprehensively (cumulatively).

Heisey (Fallston resident): Concerned about emergency response. The pipeline would go past several schools along Carrs Mill Road and leave only one egress route for 3000 students; evacuation would be very difficult.

Dawson: The report should articulate concerns related to the pipeline.

Morton: The facility would have its own fire fighting capabilities.

?: Would insurance companies cover any damage? Would premiums increase?

Dawson: We would need to investigate.

Baker: We would need to look at other facilities around the country to make that determination.

Roth: Will the fire fighting capability be retrofit or rebuilt? There was a fire at Sparrows Point about six weeks ago. The onsite facilities weren't functional and Baltimore County need to bring in additional water and equipment. Current facilities aren't adequate.

Baker: The plant agreed to cover the costs.

?: What about a catastrophic event?

Hohman: Baltimore County does not have the capabilities to deal with a catastrophic event, but could handle lesser disasters.

Jones (Greater Dundalk Alliance): With respect to insurance would need to make sure there were no caps on liability for the facility.

## Issue 7

Dawson: DNR already does safety analysis through the Power Plant Program.

Heavner: What are the differences between Cove Pt. Might expect exclusion zone to be larger at Sparrows Point.

Dawson: We can add a comparison between the locations.

Baker: Cove Point, although the numbers are not directly applicable to Sparrows Point, illustrates the possible range for an exclusion zone.

Heavner: Expect the exclusion zone to be greater at Sparrows Point.

Baker: How big, and why? Cannot conclude it should be larger.

McLean: Application still not submitted; there is still a lot of uncertainty.

Hohman: One footnote can apply with respect to the lack of applicability of specific conclusions from Cove Point to Sparrows Point

Morton: Exclusion zones have already been calculated using publicly available software.

[Schafer: PSC has that software.]

1<sup>st</sup> exclusion zone: 949 feet

2<sup>nd</sup> exclusion zone: 737 feet

3<sup>rd</sup> exclusion zone: 394 feet

Vapor exclusion zone: 262 feet

FERC will redo the calculations to check them.

Hohman: AES has stated what the calculations are. The numbers will be in the formal application.

Jones: Fuel is loaded offshore at Cove Point; onshore at Sparrows Point. Exposure is much more immediate at Sparrows Point.

Morton: Offshore loading at Cove Point is actually closer to the nearest residence than at Sparrows Point.

Jackson: Noted that there is a local Vietnamese church that really doesn't interact with the community; there is also a language barrier. This could be an evacuation issue. Mr. Jackson also represented that many of the local residents had worked for companies that promised pensions and medical benefits and then went out of business and left them with nothing. They feel that they are now potentially fighting for their lives.

Heavner: Approves the idea of a concise summary but assumes there will be appendices that could include evacuation routes and communications with ethnic communities.

## **Baker speaking for the Environmental Impacts Committee**

Brooks: Noted that the word “conservative” could be unclear; suggested replacing with language like “err on the side of the environment” or “environmentally conscientious.”

### Finding 3

Clarify the language. Baker noted that he was trying to distinguish concentrations from loads.

Ward (aide to Senator Stone): emphasized the five mile limit.

Baker: Noted lack of clarity with regard to processing dredged material vs on-site disposal.

Beazley: Baltimore County law 105 prohibits placement of dredged materials.

Konopacki (Old Inverness Community): Will there be a study on the impact to the fishing community? There is extensive crabbing and fishing in the area. Will dredging effect the area or migration of crabs into Bear Creek?

Baker: Exclusion will probably be more of an impact than dredging.

Donnelly: Separate Maryland Harbor Projects Initiative from private business enterprises with respect to dredging.

Taylor: Any dredging would need to be permitted.

### Energy Supply

Heavner: There will be benefits for energy supply on the eastern seaboard. Still there are sufficient concerns to outweigh the benefits.

?: The Sierra Club doesn't think LNG is bad; just don't put a facility at this site.

?: How much of the supply will go to BGE was asked but there was no answer.

Thiess: Has read that there would be savings.

Schafer: As far as the PSC is aware, at this point BGE has not plans to build a station that would connect with this facility.

?: AES never made a statement that the supplies would go to Maryland.

Janicki (researcher for LNG Opposition): Dominion had a pipeline approved to PA. Why do we need a second pipeline?

Jackson: AES application indicates nothing about Maryland benefits. They can sell the gas wherever they wish.

Donnelly: Maryland will serve as a conduit, not a beneficiary.

Rice: There may be some Maryland benefits indirectly simply from better supply.

Heavner: AEAS should be required to invest in programs to reduce demand that would otherwise increase with supply.

Brooks: strike the example used to illustrate this issue from the recommendations.

## **Outstanding Issues – Co-chair to Task Force**

Schedule: In early December Task Force members will generate a draft of the report. It will go to all Task Force members and we will meet to work on final revisions. This meeting will not be open to the public.

**Co-chair provided five minutes to any Task Force member to make a statement on any relevant subject**

Heavner: Would like to see cross-cutting recommendations, discussion of the dredging permit and coastal facilities consistency.

Beazley: What she is hearing from the community is “Just follow the laws.”

Thiess: Make sure permitting is covered.

Donnelly: Reference or cite the regulations.

Brooks: Cite appropriate laws and regulations. Noted that the question remains as to what local or state laws could be preempted by federal decisions.

Baker: We will ask Brent (Hare) and Elder (Ghidgerelli) to prepare a page or list of applicable regulations. May also need to ask Hare for input on HUD applicability.

Jackson: In Risk and Safety Issue 6, it isn’t just Baltimore County. Response to a catastrophe would require a regional effort. Are other counties prepared to expend costs needed?

Beazley: Harford County is an all volunteer Fire Department and may be unable to afford the training or equipment needed. We also need to be prepared to deal with isolated or ethnic communities.

Brooks: In the preamble, direct the General Assembly that this is bigger than Baltimore County. It is a statewide issue.

Thiess: Meetings have been open. Locals can’t just pack up and leave. He would like to see the filing. Could the group convene after the filing?

Donnelly: Should reference the full extent of this project, up to Eagle, PA and note the omission of direct consideration of the pipeline. There should be some mention of “cradle to grave” impacts.

Rice: Will the state get tax revenue out of the facility.

Beazley: Baltimore County should receive taxes. Should there be a final overall recommendation: yes, no or more study? Will there be a democratic vote. Assumes there will be an opening and closing statement.

Hohman: Yea or nay not part of the legislation. Don’t extend past the charge.

Heavner: Agrees there should be a “bottom line;” it isn’t prohibited by law. The overall impacts could be neutral, but cannot overcome the negatives.

Brooks: Many members are analysts. There was opposition in the bill. The Task Force should not just present information.

Jackson: Agreed with Hohman – let the legislature decide.

Beazley: Everyone needs to approve the final report.

Heavner: Be as clear as possible. Don’t make them read into it. Could ask the sponsors if they want a conclusion.

Beazley: Has learned a lot. If a community can educate itself, do an EIS, then the government can educate itself, network and communicate as well. The bottom line is the health and safety of the community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Eskin

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Member Y/N</b>
Richard Eskin	MDE	Y
Frank Dawson	DNR	Y
Rich Mclean	DNR	N
Brad Heavner	Environment Maryland	Y
Judah Prero	MDE/OAG	N
Zack Germroth	AES	N
Vince Dick	Haley & Aldrich	N
Kent Morton	AES	N
Chris Rice	MEA	Y
Randy Mathura	FERC contractor	N
Thomas E. Bagley	Concerned citizen	N
Bill Roth	NPPCC	N
Jaclyn Dixon	DLS	N
Laura Barnhardt	Baltimore Sun	N
Jaime Malarkey	Baltimore Examiner	N
Karen McGrullem	Greater Dundalk Alliance	N
Hope Janicki	Researcher, LNG Opposition Team	N
Russell S. Donnelly	Task Force/SECAP	Y
John Hohman	Baltimore County Fire chief	Y
Cathy Bevins	Baltimore County Executive Office	N
Fred Thiess	Task Force/Wells McComas	Y
Richard Schafer (for Craig Cheseck)	PSC	Y
Alice Mason	Turner Station Conservation Teams	N
Catherine Wilkies	Turner Station Conservation Teams	N
Samuel Walker	Turner Station Conservation Teams	N
Ida M. Street	Turner Station Conservation Teams	N
Ruth Chambers	Turner Station Conservation Teams	N
Juanita Jackson	Turner Station Conservation Teams	N
Steve Deem		N
Frank Eurice	Harford County Dehebatation(?)	N
Emily Rosenfield	Del. John Olsewski, Jr.	N
Lee ?	Eagle?	N
Chris Heisey	Fallston resident	N
Dolores Konopacki		N
Carolyn Jones	Greater Dundalk Alliance-Pres.; Dundalk resident	N
Bob Ward	Aide to Senator Stone	N
Sharon Beazley	Task Force – co-chair	Y
Dr. Joel Baker	Task Force – co-chair	Y
Louis Konopacki	Old Inverness Community	N
Dunbar Brooks	Task Force	Y